CELEBRATING PARISH SUCCESSES

Diaper drives

PREPARES Bags

Community Baby Showers

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PREPARES is a program of Catholic Community Services of Western Washington

Check out our website at www.preparesforlife.org

Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/PreparesWW

PREPARES is a statewide initiative of the Catholic Bishops of Washington State. PREPARES provides pregnancy and parenting support services from pregnancy to the child’s fifth birthday and is open to all. 

A DOZEN WAYS

To get involved in

PREPARES
Pregnancy & Parenting Support
ESTABLISH YOUR PREPARES TEAM
The heart of a Parish PREPARES ministry is its team of passionate volunteers led by a parish coordinator. All volunteers who will be working directly with families will receive training and ongoing support from the PREPARES staff. These volunteers discover the enrichment of their faith that comes from personal encounters with the vulnerable.

TRAVELING CRIB
The parish community places the traveling Crib in their vestibule for a month time. The parishioners fill the crib with baby related items such as diapers, clothing, blankets, and formula, anything that could be supportive to parents in their community. They can either choose to keep the items at their parish and distribute them or contact the area coordinator to find a program working with parents in their community.

CLOTHING CLOSET
Parishes provide a clothing and or/diaper closet that families can access at the parish. These closets provide much needed outreach and allow for relationships to develop within the community.

PREPARES BAGS
The PREPARES Bags will be filled with essential items for mothers and children from conception up to a child’s 5th birthday. Parishes can collect items to fill the bags for families in need. These bags would then be distributed in the community by PREPARES volunteers.

BABY SHOWER
Hold a Baby Shower which celebrates life and brings volunteers together to donate items for families. By inviting pregnant and parenting moms these showers show the community’s care for them and provide them with a few needed supplies such as layette baskets. Parishes may want to make these annual events.

FAMILY COMPANION & COMPANION TEAMS
Family Companions are volunteers who walk the journey with a parent in their community providing practical and emotional support and the ministry of presence to a family. Sometimes Companions partner with one another to form a team of 2 or 3.

PARENT SUPPORT
Start a parent support network. Parishes, through the efforts of their volunteers, can coordinate meals or times for parents to come together and establish community.

FATHERHOOD GROUP
Fathers in a parish can start a Fatherhood support group that meets and invites Fathers in the community to come for an evening of discussion and support.

PLAYING WITH LOVE
Trained volunteers facilitate a play and learn group for parents and their children, ages birth to 5 years. These groups get together on a regular basis to focus on fun activities with toddlers and parenting support.

FUNDRAISING
Lead or support fundraising activities. Funds raised can support efforts at their parish or go directly to the PREPARES WW Fund which assists families throughout the Archdiocese. Events may include breakfasts or raffles.

GROOPIT
Join PREPARES online community to help support vulnerable families. www.letsgroopit.com\prepares

PREPARES EN ESPAÑOL
Implement “A Dozen Ways” in Spanish at your parish.

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